



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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FY-04-53

PSC APPROVES APPLICATION IN DISTRIBUTION LINE CASE

Jefferson City (October 23, 2003)---The Missouri Public Service Commission has approved an application filed by AmerenUE to construct and operate a 34.5 kilovolt electric distribution line (Matthews-East Prairie Line) in New Madrid and Mississippi Counties in Missouri.

According to AmerenUE's application, the proposed distribution line will be approximately 12.6 miles in length, beginning at the Matthews Substation in New Madrid County and ending at the East Prairie Main Substation in Mississippi County. Approximately 5.5 miles of the proposed line lies outside of AmerenUE's current certificated area. According to the application, no razing or demolition of any man-made structures is anticipated as a result of the construction.

AmerenUE states the proposed line is necessary for compliance with good utility practice. The electric company indicates the primary benefit of the line will be to allow for the quick restoration of service in the event of a major outage for the towns of Charleston, Anniston, East Prairie and associated areas.

On October 15, 2003, the PSC Staff filed its recommendation with the Commission. The PSC Staff recommended the application be approved. Staff's recommendation indicates that the route chosen for the distribution line is a short and direct route along existing roadways and will minimize the impact on existing structures and farming operations. Staff stated the proposed distribution line will benefit the electric customers in this area by providing a quick restoration in the event of an outage.

The Commission's order states: "After reviewing AmerenUE's verified application, Staff's (PSC Staff) recommendation, and having heard no objections, the Commission finds that construction of the distribution line proposed by AmerenUE will serve the public convenience and necessity. As a result, AmerenUE's application should be approved."

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